

**Principals Staff Committee Meeting
Actions and Decisions
December 13, 2016**

Members Present:

Molly Ward, VA Sec. NR
Pat McDonnell, PA DEP
Gayle Barry, USDA
Chuck Hunt, NPS
David Small, DE DNREC
Ben Grumbles, MDE
Ann Swanson, CBC
Shawn Garvin, EPA
Nick DiPasquale, EPA
Mark Belton, MDDNR
Hamid Karimi, DC
Charlie Stek, CAC

Alternates Representing:

Susan Conner, USACE- Balt.
Heather Cisar, USACE- Norf.
Sandy Hertz, MDOT
Peyton Robertson, NOAA
Mike Slattery, USFWS
Bruce Williams, LGAC
Scott Phillips, USGS
Teresa Koon, WV DEP

Rachel Dixon, STAC
Sam Towell, VA Ag&For.
Scott Mandirola, WV DEP
Jason Dubow, MDDEP
Jackie Lendrum, NY DEC

Alternates Present:

Dana Aunkst, PA
Nicki Kasi, PA
Ann Jennings, CBC
Mary Gattis, LGAC
Diane Davis, DC
Jessica Blackburn, CAC
Christophe Tulou, EPA
Russ Baxter, VA
Tim Garcia, NRCS
Lee Currey, MDE

Others:

Joan Smedinghoff, CRC
Chip Macleod, CCC
Cecil Rodriguez, EPA

Al Todd, AFB
Aris Evia
Joan Salvati
Lucinda Power, EPA
Kristen Saunders, UMCES
Emile Franke, NOAA
Peggy Sanders, CBF
Joe Wood, CBF
Karl Blankenship, Bay Journal
Brian Hamilton, EPA
Nicole Lehmer, CRC
Emily Freeman, CRC
Greg Barranco, EPA
Elaine Hinrichs, STAC
Zoe Johnson, NOAA
Dave Goshorn, MD DNR
Rich Batiuk, EPA
Julie Winters, EPA
James Davis-Martin, VA
Tanya Spano, MWCOG
Tom Wenz, EPA

Actions and Decisions

Welcome and Introductions

Decision: Member plans for developing public service announcements, as indicated in the EC resolution, will be brought up at the next PSC meeting.

Action: The Principals' Staff Committee (PSC) concurs with the actions and decisions from the October 2016 meeting.

Action: Any conflicts with the 2017 MB/PSC meeting calendar should be sent to Nicole Lehmer.

Phase III WIP Planning Targets Methodology

Decision: The PSC approved the general methodology for developing Phase III WIP Planning Targets recognizing there will be specific decisions needed along the way during 2017. The recommended methodology includes a continuation of the past practice of allowing for special cases and consideration of special circumstances.

Decision: The PSC will revisit the discussion about the methodology during the planned PSC retreat (May 2017) to make final decisions on the final details of the methodology including

approving any special cases or special circumstances. An interactive briefing of the methodology planning will also be part of the retreat.

Allocation of Conowingo Infill of Nutrient and Sediment Loads

Decision: The PSC confirmed the members support:

- Continuing ongoing work on the described evaluations supporting the making of a decision on who is responsible for additional load reductions, with an emphasis on working towards narrowing down the ranges within each of the options and providing information on how the total reductions compared with E3 levels of reduction; and
- Evaluating how the additional loading responsibility will be assigned through consideration of both the application of the partnership's existing allocation equity rules as well as looking at allocations based on the most cost effective practices and locations for implementing those practices.

Narrowing Down the Range of Options for Accounting for Climate Change in the Phase III WIPs

Decision: The PSC agreed on the proposed climate change assessment procedures for determining the projected mid-term (2025) and long term (2050) impacts on the Chesapeake Bay watershed loads and the Chesapeake Bay water quality.

Action: The CBP climate coordinator, Zoe Johnson, will schedule a follow-up conference call with the appropriate Corps. of Engineers, Climate Resiliency Workgroup, and the Modeling Workgroup representatives to work out the details to ensure there is consistency between the climate change assessment work on the Comprehensive CB Plan and the MPA.

Decision: the PSC agreed on the proposed guiding principles to be considered by the jurisdictions during the development of their Phase III WIPs.

Decision: The PSC agreed to narrow the number of options to two. First, the PSC agreed with the language proposed by the Chesapeake Bay Commission combining options 5, 6, and 7. Second, the PSC also agreed to continue to work together between now and the May 2017 PSC retreat to evaluate how Option 2 will play out, based on additional modeling results as they become available.

Local Area Planning Goals Task Force's Preliminary Recommendations

Decision: The Principals' Staff Committee agreed that the Local Area Planning Goals Task Force's final recommendations will be incorporated into EPA's January 2017 Phase III WIP expectations document.

EPA's Phase III WIP Expectations – Shawn Garvin, EPA

Decision: The Principals' Staff Committee acknowledged:

- 1) EPA's plans and schedule for seeking PSC review of the draft final Phase III WIP expectations document prior to publishing the final expectations document by January 16, 2016;
- 2) The reasons behind the requested change in the schedule; and
- 3) EPA's commitment to append forthcoming Phase III WIP relevant Partnership decisions over the coming months to the final January 2017 expectations document.

Action: EPA will distribute the draft final Phase III WIP expectations document to Principals' Staff Committee members by Friday, December 16, 2016. PSC members are asked to provide comments addressing any significant concerns they have with the stated expectations by Wednesday, January 4, 2017. EPA will then publically distribute the final Phase III WIP expectations document by January 16, 2017.

Environmental Finance Symposium – MB Charge to Action Team

Note: PSC members were asked to fill out the recommendations matrix for the PSC's top priorities. PSC members asked to be kept well-informed.

Note: The top priorities were identified as: Theme Recommendation #3, Core Recommendation #1, and Theme Recommendation #1. Theme Recommendation #3 and Core Recommendation #1 should be merged into one recommendation to be addressed simultaneously. Action Team members can go back to the other recommendations at a later time, if necessary.

Decision: The Action Team should complete the recommendations matrix for these 2 recommendations (Core Recommendation #1/Theme Recommendation #3 [being merged into one] and Theme Recommendation #1) and keep PSC well-informed.

Continuing Efforts to Engage State Depts. of Education Leaders

Action: Executive Council Chair Governor McAuliffe will send a letter to other Bay Watershed Governors asking them to support the *Every Student Succeeds Act* and to pursue the available funding for environmental literacy programs. The Executive Council will discuss the Act and any Environmental Literacy items at their 2017 meeting.

PSC Role in CBP Strategy Review System (SRS)

Decision: GIT 6 Chair Dave Goshorn will add language to SRS regarding the role of PSC. The language will clarify that the flow of information is a two-way street and not only information being rolled up to the PSC from the Management Board (MB). The language will also explicitly state that input and feedback received from the PSC will be disseminated down to the MB, GITs, and other appropriate groups.